



U.S. EPA ENERGY STAR Program

Water and Wastewater Focus

ENERGY STAR Background

ENERGY STAR is a voluntary program helping organizations, businesses, and individuals protect the environment through superior energy performance. Because a strategic approach to energy management can produce twice the savings, EPA's ENERGY STAR partnership offers organizations a proven energy management strategy that helps measure current energy performance, set goals, track savings, and reward improvements.

For more than a decade, thousands of American businesses and organizations have partnered with ENERGY STAR. To date, ENERGY STAR has more than 170 state and local partners. These partners include 134 cities, towns, and counties, which collectively have a total population of more than 65 million.

The ENERGY STAR label has become the national symbol for energy efficiency, recognized by more than 60 percent of the American public. Last year, Americans with the help of ENERGY STAR prevented greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from 20 millions automobiles and saved more than \$10 billion on their energy bills.

In 1999, EPA announced its national energy performance rating system for commercial buildings. The rating system now includes 10 types of buildings representing more than 50 percent of the commercial building square footage across the country. Currently, almost 21,000 buildings have been rated nation-wide, and almost 2,000 have earned the ENERGY STAR. By earning and displaying the ENERGY STAR, organizations demonstrate their commitment to energy efficiency and environmental stewardship – while saving money on power bills.

As part of its outreach to the industrial/manufacturing sector, EPA convenes ENERGY STAR Focuses. An ENERGY STAR Focus is a targeted effort to improve the energy efficiency within a specific industry or combination of industries. These focuses create momentum for continuous improvement in energy performance, provide the industry's managers with the tools they need to achieve greater success in their energy management programs, and create a supportive environment where energy efficiency ideas and opportunities are shared. To date, EPA has initiated several industry focuses which have led to the development of energy performance benchmarking capability for these industries, enhanced networking opportunities for partners, and supported the industries in their efforts to strategically manage energy.

EPA develops focuses for industry sectors that:

- Are large consumers of energy,
- Have significant carbon emissions,
- Have large costs associated with energy use, and
- Would receive value from benchmarking energy efficiency using an industry specific energy performance rating system.

Building an ENERGY STAR Water and Wastewater Focus

A Focus through ENERGY STAR on water and wastewater is a natural expansion of EPA's ENERGY STAR commercial and industrial efforts with public and private sector organizations. For many ENERGY STAR partners, water and wastewater energy performance improvement represents a significant opportunity. Therefore, EPA's ENERGY STAR program is building an energy efficiency Focus in the water and wastewater industries. Focus participants will provide input to EPA about the following future program resources, tools, and opportunities:

- A strong network of partners (public and private drinking water organizations, POTWs/local governments, and related industry, national, and state associations),
- An Energy Performance Rating System (EPRS) for each industry that is normalized for the appropriate variables such as weather, climate, plant/system characteristics, and regional differences,
- An Energy Efficiency Assessment and Opportunities Report for each industry that describes best practices to increase energy and water efficiency,
- Energy Management Guidelines to help organizations set goals and determine action steps,
- Financing information that provides innovative solutions to paying for energy efficiency projects,
- Technical training and support for use of the EPA rating system and other ENERGY STAR tools, and
- EPA recognition of energy performance improvement.

Typically, a Focus lasts one to two years. After the focus phase and the successful development of the above program elements, EPA plans to expand the invitation to participate to all organizations from the water and wastewater industries. For more information and questions, please contact Katy Hatcher, ENERGY STAR National Manager for the Public Sector at 202-343-9676 or hatcher.caterina@epa.gov.

ENERGY STAR Focus Schedule

The following schedule of activities can be used to estimate the time commitment of ENERGY STAR Water and Wastewater Focus participants.

Over a one to two year period, EPA asks that Focus participants contribute through the following activities:

- Introductory tele/webconference to outline goals, activities, and schedule for the course of the Focus (1 day: March 2005);
- Review materials related to development of the Rating System, Energy Efficiency Assessment and Opportunities Report, and other program resources for each industry;
- Quarterly or Bimonthly conference calls to discuss comments received about development of the Rating System, Energy Efficiency Assessment and Opportunities Report, and other program resources for each industry (1 – 2 hours);
- One-on-one conversations about topics of specific interest to EPA and/or Focus participants;
- Annual Focus meeting, either tele/webconference or in person meeting (1 – 2 days: TBD).